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THE NORTH CAROLINA AWARDS



1994

THE AWARD

The North Carolina Awards were instituted by the 1961 General Assembly, which acted on the idea of the late Dr. Robert Lee Humber of Greenville, then State Senator from Pitt County. The purpose of the Awards, as set forth in the statutes, is to recognize "notable accomplishments by North Carolina citizens in the fields of scholarship, research, the fine arts and public leadership." It is the highest honor the state can bestow.

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The North Carolina Award was designed by the eminent sculptor Paul Manship and was one of his last commissions before his death.

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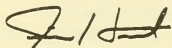
Dr. Christopher C. Fordham, III, Chairman
Joseph D. Rowand
Carolyn Collins
Doris Betts
John S. Stevens

**THE NORTH
CAROLINA
AWARDS
COMMITTEE**

The North Carolina Award is the highest honor our state can bestow. Created in 1961 by the General Assembly, the award is given yearly to men and women who have made significant contributions in science, literature, fine arts, and public service.

On behalf of all North Carolinians I congratulate the 1994 award recipients for their outstanding achievements. We in North Carolina are grateful to these outstanding citizens for their leadership, service, and talent.

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "R. H. H.", is centered below the text.

31st North Carolina Awards

Dinner and Awards Presentation

The North Raleigh Hilton

October 13, 1994

Welcome

The Honorable Betty Ray McCain, Secretary

North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources

Pledge of Allegiance

Captain D.R. Scheu

United States Navy, Retired

U.S.S. North Carolina Battleship Memorial

Wilmington, North Carolina

Invocation

The Reverend William Wallace Finlator

Raleigh, North Carolina

Entertainment

Members of the Ciompi Quartet

of Duke University

Hsaio-mei Ku, Violin

Jonathan Bagg, Viola

Fred Raimi, Cello

PROGRAM

Remarks

Dr. Christopher C. Fordham, III

Chairman, North Carolina Awards Committee

Awards Presentation

The Honorable James B. Hunt, Jr., Governor

State of North Carolina

Video Documentation Program

Department of Cultural Resources

Centerpieces provided by Sandi's Florist

Garner, North Carolina

Wines provided by Mutual Distributing Company,

Raleigh, Charlotte, Wilmington, and New Bern;

Biltmore Estate Winery, Asheville; and Glen Ellen

Winery, California.

PAST RECIPIENTS

1964

John N. Couch
Science

Inglis Fletcher
Literature

John Motley Morehead
Public Service

Clarence Poe
Public Service

Francis Speight
Fine Arts

1965

Frank P. Graham
Public Service

Paul Green
Literature

Gerald W. Johnson
Literature

Hunter Johnson
Fine Arts

Frederick A. Wolf
Science

1966

Bernice Kelly Harris
Literature

Luther H. Hodges
Public Service

A. G. Odell, Jr.
Fine Arts

Oscar K. Rice
Science

1967

Albert Coates
Public Service

Jonathan Daniels
Literature

Carl W. Gottschalk
Science

Benjamin F. Swalin
Fine Arts

Hiram Houston Merritt
Science

1968

Robert Lee Humber
Public Service

Hobson Pittman
Fine Arts

Vermont C. Royster
Literature

Charles Phillips Russell
Literature

Stanley G. Stephens
Science

1969

Kenneth M. Brinkhous
Science

**May Gordon Latham
Kellenberger**
Public Service

Ovid Williams Pierce
Literature

Charles W. Stanford, Jr.
Fine Arts

1970

Philip Handler
Science

Frances Gray Patton
Literature

Henry C. Pearson
Fine Arts

Terry Sanford
Public Service

1971

Guy Owen
Literature

James H. Semans
Fine Arts

**Mary Duke Biddle Trent
Semans**
Fine Arts

Capus Waynick
Public Service

James Edwin Webb
Science

1972

Sidney Alderman Blackmer
Fine Arts

Edward E. Davis, Jr.
Science

John Ehle
Literature

William Dallas Herring
Public Service

Harold Hotelling
Science

1973

Helen Smith Bevington
Literature

Ellis Brevier Cowling
Science

Burke Davis
Literature

Sam J. Ervin
Public Service

Kenneth Ness
Fine Arts

1974

William C. Fields
Fine Arts

Thad G. Stem, Jr.
Literature

Ellen Black Winston
Public Service

James B. Wyngaarden
Science

1975

Doris W. Betts
Literature

John L. Etchells
Science

William C. Friday
Public Service

Robert Ward
Fine Arts

1976

Romare Bearden
Fine Arts
C. Clark Cockerham
Science
Foster Fitz-Simons
Fine Arts
Juanita M. Kreps
Public Service
Richard Walser
Literature

1982

Selma Hortense Burke
Fine Arts
Nancy Winbon Chase
Public Service
Floyd W. Denny, Jr.
Science
Willie Snow Ethridge
Literature
R. Phillip Hanes, Jr.
Fine Arts

1988

Edith London
Fine Arts
Pedro Cuatrecasas
Science
Charles Edward Eaton
Literature
William S. Lee
Public Service
David Brinkley
Public Service

1977

Elizabeth Duncan Koontz
Public Service
Reginald Glennis Mitchiner
Science
Reynolds Price
Literature
Joseph Curtis Sloane
Fine Arts
Jonathan Williams
Fine Arts

1983

Heather Ross Miller
Literature
Frank Guthrie
Science
Mary Dalton
Fine Arts
Harry Dalton
Fine Arts
Hugh Morton
Public Service

1989

Loonis McGlohon
Fine Arts
Gertrude B. Elion
Science
Ronald Bayes
Literature
Maxine M. Swalin
Public Service
Roy Park
Public Service

1978

Robert Robey Garvey, Jr.
Public Service
Henry L. Kamphoefner
Fine Arts
David Coston Sabiston, Jr.
Science
Harriet L. Tynes
Public Service
Manly Wade Wellman
Literature

1984

George Watts Hill
Public Service
Robert L. Hill
Science
Maud Gatewood
Fine Arts
Lee Smith
Literature
Joseph Mitchell
Literature
Andy Griffith
Fine Arts

1990

Leon Rooke
Literature
H. Keigh H. Brodie
Science
Bob Timberlake
Fine Arts
Dean Wallace Colvard
Public Service
Frank H. Kenan
Public Service

1979

Archie K. Davis
Public Service
John D. deButts
Public Service
Harry Golden
Literature
Walter Gordy
Science
Sam Ragan
Fine Arts

1985

J. Gordon Hanes, Jr.
Public Service
Wilma Dykeman
Literature
Dr. Irwin Fridovich
Science
Claude F. Howell
Fine Arts

1991

William J. Brown
Fine Arts
Mary Ellen Jones
Science
Robert R. Morgan
Literature
Jesse H. Meredith
Public Service
Elizabeth H. Dole
Public Service

1980

Fred Chappell
Literature
George H. Hitchings
Science
Robert Lindgren
Fine Arts
Dan K. Moore
Public Service
Jeanette C. Moore
Public Service

1986

Joseph M. Bryan
Public Service
Billy Graham
Public Service
A. R. Ammons
Literature
Ernest L. Eliel
Science
Doc Watson
Fine Arts

1992

Louis D. Rubin, Jr.
Literature
John M.J. Madey
Science
William McWhorter Cochrane
Public Service
Maxwell R. Thurman
Public Service
Charles R. "Chuck" Davis
Fine Arts

1981

Adeline McCall
Fine Arts
Glen Rounds
Literature
Ralph H. Scott
Public Service
Vivian T. Stannett
Science
Tom Wicker
Literature

1987

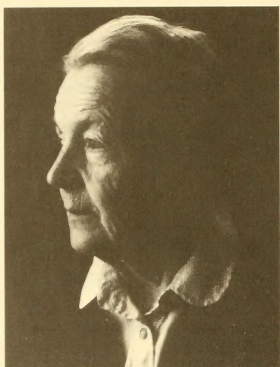
John T. Caldwell
Public Service
Charles Kuralt
Public Service
Maya Angelou
Literature
Robert J. Lefkowitz
Science
Harvey K. Littleton
Fine Arts

1993

John Hope Franklin
Literature
Oliver Smithies
Science
Joe Cox
Fine Arts
Eric Schopler
Public Service
Billy Taylor
Fine Arts

FINE ARTS

Sarah Blakeslee



Sarah Blakeslee receives the 1994 North Carolina Award in Fine Arts for capturing and presenting ordinary scenes and people with extraordinary sensitivity, clarity and understanding during a painting career spanning more than 60 years.

Born in Illinois in 1912, she moved to Washington, D.C. as a child. She enjoyed drawing even in grade school, and after high school began study at Miss Critcher's School under the well known artist, Catherine Critcher. Concurrently, she enrolled in the Corcoran School of Art to study cast and life drawing, in the Beaux-Art tradition.

Further study at the Art Institute of Chicago and at the Chester Springs School, a branch of the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, prepared her to become a grande dame of painting for North Carolina and the world. Her works are included in numerous museums and private collections.

Working in the American Realism style, Blakeslee paints with elegance and precision. She employs clean color, deft brushstrokes, and equilibrium in spatial relationships. Since moving here in 1961 she has focused her attention on eastern North Carolina, painting the region's fishing villages, flowers, trees and barns.

Landscapes are but one area of concentration. She also paints portraits and has made still lifes her own motif. She balances values and maintains a uniformity of surface texture in her compositions. Mastery of these painter's techniques are the devices that allow Blakeslee to go beyond mere visual reproduction of the subject, and to share the essence of its being and place.

A wife and mother as well as an artist, Blakeslee was married to the well-known artist Francis Speight for 50 years up until his death in 1989.

Fifteen years her senior, Francis Speight taught Sarah at the Chester Springs School. A Bertie County native, Francis had made a real name for himself in the art world while at the Philadelphia Academy. But his wife went on to make her own mark.

Her work was more akin to the gentle breeze caressing our cheek than the tornado that blows us over. She made the experiences of her life the focus of her work. Her children Tom and Elizabeth, babysitters, as well as household scenes and local geography were all featured on her canvases.

Noted artist, teacher, and critic Robert Godfrey has said, "If I were to summarize Sarah Blakeslee's work, the word 'sublime' would need to be used."

Truly, Blakeslee's art has made us appreciate the sublime. The first retrospective of her work was held at East Carolina University in Greenville in April, 1993. Blakeslee continues to exemplify the American painting sensibility of realists and modernists such as Thomas Eakins, Daniel Garber and Edward Hopper. She has become the authority by which representational painting can be measured.

Sarah Blakeslee lives and paints in Greenville.

Richard Jenrette receives the 1994 North Carolina Award for Public Service for a native North Carolinian living outside the state for his visionary support of historic preservation and generous contributions of energy, imagination and financial resources to such endeavors.

Known to many on Wall Street as a savvy businessman, shrewd negotiator and strong leader, Jenrette is equally admired for his appreciation of historic preservation, personal commitment to civic obligations and individual sense of style. His many successes in the investment banking and insurance industries have provided resources for countless public projects.

Jenrette's most recent gift to the people of North Carolina is the 55 acre Ayr Mount estate along the Eno Valley in Hillsborough, and the 20 acre Oxbow archaeological site, also in the Eno Valley. The gift of both the federal style home and the Native American archaeological site to the Classical American Homes Preservation Trust in Hillsborough assures public access to valuable educational and cultural resources.

Other notable homes restored and refurbished by Jenrette include Edgewater (1820) in Barrytown, New York; Roper House (1838) in Charleston, South Carolina; Millford (1839) near Sumter, South Carolina; and Cane Garden in St. Croix.

His knowledge of historic preservation led to his election to the board of trustees for the National Trust for Historic Preservation. President Carter appointed him chairman of the United States Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (1978-1980).

He also contributed to the UNC-CH Bicentennial Campaign, and has served on the boards or as trustee at UNC-CH, Harvard, Duke, the College of Charleston, New York University, and at the N.C. School of the Arts.

Armed with an M.B.A. degree from Harvard, Jenrette was largely responsible for building Donaldson, Lufkin and Jenrette (DLJ), into a leading banking firm. After the sale of DLJ to the Equitable Life Assurance Society, Jenrette was persuaded by the board of directors to take charge of the troubled Equitable. In an unprecedented move, he was largely responsible for transforming the then declining mutual insurance company into a stock company on strong financial footing.

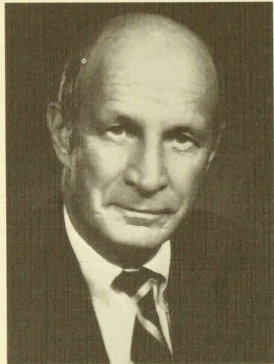
From the public schools of Raleigh to UNC-CH to the founding of Donaldson, Lufkin and Jenrette to the chairmanship of the Equitable, Jenrette has lived the axiom of doing good while doing well.

He has contributed to various universities, foundations and cultural institutions, acquired and donated American treasures, and dedicated a keen mind and generous spirit to the benefit of the many. He has started, managed and salvaged business ventures in the best capitalist tradition, and is known to many in the financial district as "the last gentleman on the street."

Among his honors and awards are the American Assembly Service to Democracy Award-Dwight D. Eisenhower Medal (1993), the University of North Carolina Distinguished Alumnus Award (1986), and the Harvard Business School Alumni Achievement Award (1984). He is known nationally and internationally for his business acumen and as a collector/contributor of art.

Richard Jenrette lives in New York and the Carolinas.

PUBLIC SERVICE Richard Jenrette



Elizabeth Spencer receives a 1994 North Carolina Award in Literature for her long and distinguished career as a novel and short story writer.

Spencer's life has been full and always busy. From the time she could talk she told stories, and when she learned to write, she wrote. She calls it "spontaneous combustion." Even today, when an idea hits, she becomes absorbed and intensely involved.

The results of this energy and passion are 11 novels, three collections of short stories and innumerable awards and honorary degrees.

R.Z. Sheppard of *Time Magazine* has characterized her as "intensely curious about the things people do, the lies they live and the truths they hide," and her stories as "graceful, solidly crafted and honest."

The inspiration for her fiction has come from her personal experiences and observations, while she attributes her story telling ability to growing up in the south. "The whole world, then, was either entirely in the nature of stories or partook so deeply of stories as to be at every point inseparable from them."

Spencer was born in 1921 in Carrollton, Mississippi, the daughter of a farmer. She left Carrollton to attend Belhaven College in Jackson and then left Mississippi to earn a master's degree from Vanderbilt University.

During the next ten years she taught English at universities and colleges in both Mississippi and Tennessee. She even spent a year writing for the *Nashville Tennessean*.

She began submitting her short stories to magazines and receiving rejections in the 40's, but in 1948 her first novel, *Fire in the Morning*, was published. Shortly thereafter *The New Yorker* contacted her for stories — she sent and they published the previously rejected stories.

Although her writing style and characters reflect her southern heritage, she has spent most of her writing career outside the United States.

Five years living in Italy provided the setting for *The Light in the Piazza* (1960) and spawned a number of short stories. *The Light in the Piazza* was adapted into a film in 1962.

She also lived in Canada for 28 years where she was attached to the graduate writing program at Concordia University in Montreal.

In 1986 she found her way back to the south, via the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where she joined the faculty of the creative writing program.

Although she left the program in 1992 to concentrate again on her writing, Elizabeth Spencer still lives in Chapel Hill with her husband of 38 years, John Rusher.

LITERATURE

Elizabeth Spencer



Dr. Marshall Edgell receives the 1994 North Carolina Award in Science for his innovative work in the area of molecular biology.

Although Edgell more than deserves this honor for both his scientific discoveries and other activities, he insists that his success is the result of collaborating with many others, especially Dr. Clyde Hutchison.

Edgell worked with Hutchison while a postdoctoral fellow at the California Institute of Technology from 1965-68. It was there that Edgell and Hutchison began their longterm collaboration exploring the properties of DNA.

In the late 60's, the doctors again worked together at UNC - Chapel Hill. There they continued research and in 1971 Edgell proposed a way to separate DNA into specific fragments. With Hutchison's help, he proved its effectiveness.

Continued work in the early 1970's using restriction fragments to dissect a specific genome led to an understanding and use of restriction enzymes in cloning. Further study with Hutchison and Dr. Michael Smith resulted in a procedure for mutating DNA.

Edgell is now working with Hutchison to recover biological activity for an extinct genetic entity, a goal that recalls the theme of *Jurassic Park*.

While Edgell's research credentials alone are deserving of recognition, his work in education and program development has also been outstanding.

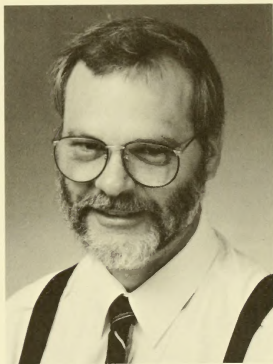
A professor at UNC, Edgell has been in the department of microbiology and immunology since 1977. Teaching is not just a side profession for Edgell, but is an integral part of the work he does for the university.

Beginning with some of the first classes he taught in undergraduate cell biology, Edgell devised a non-lecture teaching format focusing on intellectual skill development. This method has been successful with both graduate and undergraduate students. Currently, he is working on a software project to facilitate his teaching method. Plus, he was involved in designing a multidepartmental training program that received a National Institute of Health award with funding in 1991.

As if teaching and researching weren't enough, Edgell was a founder and director of the UNC Program in Molecular Biology and Biotechnology for eight years, on the founding advisory board and a member of the group that formulated the original plans and mission for the North Carolina Biotechnology Center, and a founder and current director of the university graduate training program in protein engineering and molecular genetics.

Dr. Marshall Edgell is married to Cora Jean Edgell, a molecular cell biologist in the pathology department at UNC.

SCIENCE Marshall Edgell



PUBLIC SERVICE

Freda Nicholson



Freda Hyams Nicholson receives the 1994 North Carolina Award in Public Service for a lifelong dedication to helping others and instilling in youngsters a desire to learn. Head of Charlotte's renowned science center Discovery Place, this self-made woman has consistently overcome seemingly insurmountable obstacles.

Born in poverty in the mountain town of Swannanoa in 1934, Freda Nicholson was one of eight children. Both her parents had serious health problems so at an early age she became a substitute parent for her younger siblings. More than once, family stresses became so acute that the children were sent to a Crossnore orphanage.

It was while working in the orphanage hospital that Freda first became interested in nursing. A scholarship made her choose St. Joseph's Hospital School of Nursing in Savannah. After graduation in 1955, Freda worked at a New Orleans hospital where she met a young medical student named Henry H. Nicholson, Jr.

In 1956, Freda and "Nick" married and moved to Charlotte where he set up a surgical practice. Although she began working in hospital administration, Freda's thirst for learning soon drove her to enter Queens College where she received a B.S. in nursing in 1959.

Over the next few years, most of her time went to the rapidly growing Nicholson family (she is the mother of six highly successful children). Wanting to keep her skills sharp, Freda taught part time and continued her education, receiving a M.Ed. from UNC-Charlotte in 1976.

Some years before, Freda had begun volunteering at the old Charlotte Nature Museum. Because of her background and interest in young people, she first helped plan the Hall of Health's programs. Using a transparent mannequin and mobile reproductions of human body systems, Freda and her colleagues designed an exhibit and programs that were a huge hit.

In 1978, Freda became the museum's education curator (she had been health curator since 1971). Meanwhile, she had begun helping plan the new Discovery Place. When the complex (consisting of Discovery Place itself and the Nature Museum) opened in 1980, she first was named life center coordinator and then acting director.

Because of her leadership and fundraising abilities, in 1981 Freda Nicholson was named executive director and CEO of Discovery Place, Inc. Since its opening, the facility has become an international model for its unique combination of rain forest, aquarium, and hands-on exhibits.

This achievement was due in no small part to the director who also was the impetus behind a dramatic addition to Discovery Place that opened in 1991. Featuring the country's first combined Omnimax Theater and planetarium, the new wing was the product of years of research.

Currently vice president of the American Association of Museums, Dr. Nicholson has received many honors including an honorary doctorate from Queens College (1982), Charlotte's Woman of the Year (1982), and the Association of Science-Technology Centers Fellow Award (1993). Since becoming Discovery Place's director, she has been offered almost every major science museum directorship in the country.

A grandmother of two, Freda Nicholson lives with her husband in Charlotte.

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